



University of Hawaii at Manoa

Environmental Center
Crawford 317 • 2550 Campus Road
Honolulu, Hawaii 96822
Telephone (808) 948-7361

Office of the Director

May 29, 1980

RG:0042

Dr. Penelope Canan
Department of Sociology
University of Hawaii
Honolulu, Hawaii 96822

Dear Penelope:

Review of Draft Report
"An Overview of the Socio-economic Issues of
Developing Geothermal Energy in Hawaii"

The Environmental Center has reviewed the above cited document with assistance from Barbara Vogt. We have made marginal comments in the text; this letter contains remarks of a more general nature.

Overall we feel the report is a good first attempt to organize background information which may be important to a socioeconomic assessment of geothermal development. The basic outline of general topics seems to be a viable one. No major topical areas appear to have been overlooked. Several general observations may be useful in your revision efforts.

First, the report, particularly Chapter 3 and 4, are quite disjointed. It reads very much like a cut and paste effort. These chapters would benefit from more transitions from topic to topic. In addition at times the multitude of tables are not well integrated into the text.

Second, we found the general framework outlined in Chapter 2 an interesting and viable model on which to base the report. The remainder of the text, however, is not molded to the concepts present by this framework in an obvious fashion. Furthermore, it would seem appropriate to return to that framework after all the descriptive material in Chapters 3,4 and 5 is presented and outline how the framework relates to making a socioeconomic assessment about the topic at hand.

Third, one arena that is weakly addressed concerns the types of impacts that could likely occur given differing assumptions about development options. The report never solidly discusses what problems are likely to take place. A section of that nature would strengthen the report and bolster the rather timid conclusions presented in the last chapter.

Dr. Penelope Canan

- 2 -

May 29, 1980

If you wish to discuss our review further please feel free to contact us.
We hope our ideas will be useful in the revision of this timely document.

Sincerely,



John H. Sorensen

JHS/cu

cc: Doak Cox
Barbara Vogt